


this response Applicants hereby elect the species of Figure 9 for prosecution.

Pending claims 1, 15-17, and 35-37 are believed to be generic. Additionally, claims 5, 14, 43, and 44 appear to read on the elected species. The remaining claims are withdrawn as being drawn to non-elected species, but those which depend upon eventually allowed claims are subject to being allowed as well, according to PTO practice.

In view of the foregoing amendments, and election, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits and for allowance over the prior art of record, and early notification of same is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


Donald E. Stout
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,493

April 26, 1999
Irvine, CA 92618
949-450-1750

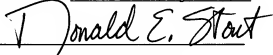
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

on Monday, April 26, 1999

Registered Representative: Donald E. Stout, Reg. No. 34,493

Signature: _____


4-26-99

Date: _____